

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 31, with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 17. Schematic structure of exemplary histidine-lysine branched transport polymers. In one aspect of the invention, branched polymers consist of polymers emanating from a lysine core. The branches of the polymer can emanate from non-consecutive lysines, or as depicted here, from consecutive lysines. R represents K-H-K-H-K-H-K-H-K-G-K-H-K-H-K-H-K-H-K (SEQ ID NO:3) for the H-K series of branched polymers and K-H-K-H-H-K-H-H-K-H-H-K-H-H-K-H-H- K-H-K (SEQ ID NO:5) for the HH-K series of branched polymers.